

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (New): A composition comprising:

an extremely poorly water-soluble drug, obtained by treating, with a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid of carbon dioxide, a mixture comprising a porous silica material and said extremely poorly water-soluble drug, wherein said porous silica material has an average pore diameter in a range of from 1 to 20 nm, pores having diameters within $\pm 40\%$ of said average pore size account for at least 60% of a total pore volume of said porous silica material, and in X-ray diffractometry, said porous silica material has at least one peak at a position of diffraction angle (2θ) corresponding to a d value of at least 1 nm.

Claim 22 (New): The composition according to claim 21, wherein said porous silica material has a specific surface area of from 100 to 2,000 m²/g.

Claim 23 (New): The composition according to claim 21, wherein a mixing ratio of said porous silica material to said an extremely poorly water-soluble drug is from 0.1:1 to 1,000:1.

Claim 24 (New): The composition according to claim 21, wherein an extremely poorly water-soluble drug is 2-benzyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylthio)phenyl]-2H-pyridazin-3-one.

Claim 25 (New): A medicinal preparation comprising a composition with an extremely poorly water-soluble drug contained therein as defined in claim 21.

Claim 26 (New): A process for producing a composition with an extremely poorly water-soluble drug contained therein as defined in claim 21, the process comprising:

placing a porous silica material and said extremely poorly water-soluble drug in a pressure vessel;

filling said pressure vessel with carbon dioxide;

treating said porous silica material and said extremely poorly water-soluble drug while controlling a temperature and pressure within said vessel such that carbon dioxide is maintained in a supercritical state or subcritical state; and

discharging carbon dioxide to recover the resulting composition,

wherein said porous silica material has an average pore diameter in a range of from 1 to 20 nm, pores having diameters within $\pm 40\%$ of said average pore size account for at least 60% of a total pore volume of said porous silica material, and in X-ray diffractometry, said porous silica material has at least one peak at a position of diffraction angle (2θ) corresponding to a d value of at least 1 nm.

Claim 27 (New): The process of claim 26, wherein a weight ratio of said extremely poorly water-soluble drug to a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid of carbon dioxide is from 1:1 to 1:1,000,000.

Claim 28 (New): The process of claim 26, wherein a temperature of treatment with a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid is from -40 to 100°C .

Claim 29 (New): The process of claim 26, wherein a pressure of treatment with a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid is from 1 to 50 MPa.

Claim 30 (New): The process of claim 26, wherein a time of treatment with a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid is from 1 minute to 24 hours.

Claim 31 (New): A process for producing a composition with an extremely poorly water-soluble drug contained therein as defined in claim 21, the process comprising:

placing a porous silica material and said extremely poorly water-soluble drug in a pressure vessel;

controlling a temperature within said vessel such that carbon dioxide will be maintained in a supercritical state or subcritical state filling said pressure vessel with carbon dioxide at such a pressure that carbon dioxide is maintained in said supercritical state or subcritical state;

maintaining said supercritical state or subcritical state to treat said porous silica material and said extremely poorly water-soluble drug; and

discharging carbon dioxide to recover the resulting composition,

wherein said porous silica material has an average pore diameter in a range of from 1 to 20 nm, pores having diameters within $\pm 40\%$ of said average pore size account for at least 60% of a total pore volume of said porous silica material, and in X-ray diffractometry, said porous silica material has at least one peak at a position of diffraction angle (2θ) corresponding to a d value of at least 1 nm.

Claim 32 (New): The process according to claim 31, wherein a weight ratio of said extremely poorly water-soluble drug to a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid of carbon dioxide is from 1:1 to 1:1,000,000.

Claim 33 (New): The process according to claim 31, wherein a temperature of treatment with a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid is from – 40 to 100°C.

Claim 34 (New): The process according to claim 31, wherein a pressure of treatment with a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid is from 1 to 50 MPa.

Claim 35 (New): The process according to claim 31, wherein a time of treatment with a supercritical fluid or subcritical fluid is from 1 minute to 24 hours.